

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claim 2 has been canceled. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has objected to claim 11 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) for being in improper form.

Applicants respectfully submit that this objection should be withdrawn because the Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment filed April 4, 2008 includes an amendment to claim 11 limiting its dependency to only claim 6.

The Examiner has also noted that MPEP §1608.01(n) states that a "claim which depends from a dependent claim should not be separated by any claim which does not also depend from said dependent claim," and that claims 11 and 15 do not comply and must be appropriately corrected.

Applicants respectfully submit that this is only a suggested arrangement, and is not required. Applicants' agent conducted a short telephone interview with the Examiner about these two items on June 11, 2008, and she indicated that these objections will be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3-9, 12, 14 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication US2001/0042118 to **Miyake et al.** (hereafter "**Miyake et al.**") in view of U.S. Patent 6,954,790 to Forsl w (hereafter "**Forsl w**").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Miyake et al. discloses a network managing method, medium and system capable of managing a plurality of types of logical networks for one network entity composed of a plurality of objects. Information on network topologies is collected from each of the plurality of objects. Display data is created for each of a plurality of types of logical network topologies for each object in accordance with the collected information on network topologies. A control is conducted in accordance with the created display data so as to display a physical connection relationship, a logical connection relationship, and a virtual connection relationship on a virtual screen.

The Examiner has admitted that Miyake et al. does not explicitly disclose component nodes generating a unique global address or transmitting the generated global address, attribute information of the system component node and installation position information of the system component node, to the network, but he has cited Forsl w for teaching this feature.

Forsl w discloses a network-based mobile workgroup system which is an access management system for mobile users with VPN and firewall functionality built in. The mobile user can access the mobile workgroup system over a set of access technologies and select server resources and correspondent nodes to access pending their workgroup membership approvals. All workgroup policy rules are defined in a mobile service manager and pushed down to one or more mobile service routers for policy enforcement. The mobile service router closest to the mobile client, and being part of the mobile virtual private network, performs regular authentication checks of the mobile client during service execution. At the same time it performs traffic filtering based on the mobile user's workgroup memberships.

Neither of these references teaches, mentions or suggests that the plurality of system component nodes include at least one controller and at least one of a sensor and an actuator, as in the present invention.

Accordingly, claim 2 has been canceled and its limitations added to claim 1 to recite this distinction.

Furthermore, regarding the authentication recited in claim 8, page 18, lines 4-6 of the specification discloses that the "authentication section Tr2 adds authentication data to a header of a packet in accordance with the IPv6 specification." In contrast, the Examiner has cited column 4, lines 5-9 of Forsl w for teaching a new IP header containing a mobile client's "care-of" address, which does not provide an authentication function as urged by the Examiner.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Miyake et al., Forsl w and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,670,909 to Kim (hereafter "Kim").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Kim discloses a ultra-wideband smart sensor interface network which utilizes impulse radio technology to monitor and control the environment in a building. In particular, the network includes a sensor attached to a first impulse radio unit that is capable of transmitting an impulse radio signal containing sensor related information to a second impulse radio unit. The second impulse radio unit is attached to a control station that uses the sensor related information (e.g., environmental related information, safety related information or surveillance related information) to monitor and/or control the environment within a building.

The Examiner has cited column 19, lines 12-13 for teaching a network 900 including a sensor 902. As noted above, the present invention as shown in exemplary FIG. 2 includes at least one controller node and at least one of a sensor node and an actuator node, as recited in the amendments to claim 1.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Miyake et al. in view of Forsl w and further in view of U.S. patent 6,058,420 to Davies (hereafter "Davies").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Davies discloses a system used to manage a network by monitoring at least one interface of the network comprises a poller, a server, and a database, all in communication with one another. The poller continuously checks the at least one interface of the network by continuously sending out a poller query message to at least one interface of the network. The poller suspects a first interface of at least one interface of failing when the poller does not receive a poller reply message in response to the query messages from the first interface within a first time period. The poller

sends an alert signal to the server notifying the server that the first interface of the at least one interface may be failing when the poller suspects the first interface of the at least one interface is failing. After receiving the alert signal the server sends out at least one server query sign to the first interface, the server monitors the response to determine whether the first interface replies to at least one server query signal by sending at least one server replay message. The server evaluates at least one server replay message to determine whether the first interface is failing.

Davies has been cited for teaching including an address in a multi-cast packet but, like the other cited references, fails to teach, mention or suggest the feature recited in claim 1, as amended, from which claim 10 indirectly depends.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Miyake et al. in view of Forslöv, Kim and Davies.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner has cited column 9, lines 16-18 and 22-24 of Davies for teaching a self learning section for "learning more appropriate control functions" by performing transmissions to and from the sensor and the actuator, and transmits the learned control function to the management mode.

Applicants respectfully disagree. The passage cited by the Examiner discloses no more than that polling module 603 sends out "SNMP Get Request 621" and tracks the response, where each interface's status is reported separately to server module 501. The type of "learning" recited in claim 15 of the instant application is not mentioned or even suggested in Davies.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1 and 3-16, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is respectfully solicited.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Dated: August 13, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

William L. Brooks

Registration No.: 34,129

EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE
LLP

P.O. Box 55874

Boston, Massachusetts 02205

(202) 478-7376

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant